Export to Senegal

1921. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Senegalese President during his recent visit invited Indian investors to tap Senegal market because of locational advantage; and

(b) if so, the action taken to boost Indian exports to Senegal especially rice, cotton, yarn and pharmaceuticals in great demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

MoUs with Government of Assam

1922. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what were the Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) between Government of India and Government of Assam in 1999 and in March, 2003 respectively;

(b) how these affected in provincialising of High Schools in Assam;

(c) what are the effects of these MoUs as regards to employment in schools; and

(d) whether it is not a step for privatisation of education in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) On behalf of the Government of India, Ministry of Finance had signed MoUs with the Government of Assam on 13.1.2000 and 26.3.2000. These MoUs were about the fiscal reforms programme in view of the severe financial constraints by the Government of Assam. Following were the salient features of the MoUs:—

(i) Rationalisation in Government Expenditure;

(ii) Tax and non-tax revenue reforms;

(iii) Reduction of revenue deficits;

(iv) Privatisation programme in non-essential sector;

(v) Institutional reforms to promote more effective regulation, lower transaction cost and greater efficiency in public activities and in economy, in general; and

(vi) Administrative reforms and economy measures, which *inter-alia*, include imposing ban on all new recruitment, except in human development areas through a process that first optimises utilisation of the existing work force in Government of Assam.

(b) to (d) Govt. of Assam has informed that as per these MoUs, no private institution will be taken over except for the benefit of the people belonging to SC/ST/OBC. Provision of grants-in-aid to new schools shall be done only on the basis of redeployment of the existing posts. Uneconomic/unserviceable and under utilized schools will be identified by 1.6.2003 and such schools will be merged/rationalized/abolished in phases and the exercise to be completed by 1.6.2005. The existing formula of non-salary grants to aid new schools shall be reviewed by 30.6.2003. This grant will be reduced and to discontinue from 30.4.2005. Salary grants to aid new schools will be reduced in phases by 2003-04 by abolishing non-essential and eligible posts. No new private institution has been taken over after the signing of the MoU. Even though there was recruitment of around 7,000 teachers in March, 2001 under Centrally Sponsored Scheme OBB, no recruitment has taken place after that. No private institution has also been taken over in view of the MoU.

Interim Policy Regulations by AICTE

1923. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the interim Policy Regulations issued by the AICTE and the Policy Guidelines issued by Government in respect of private medical colleges make any special provision for such institutions established by the minorities under Article 30 of the Constitution; and

(b) if so, the concession, if any, enjoyed by the minority institution as district from other private institutions?